COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
FIRE DEPARTMENT

FIRE PREVENTION DIVISION

BATTERY SYSTEM PERMIT REQUIREMENTS

Article 1, section 105 of the Los Angeles County Fire Code states… a permit shall be obtained from the Fire Prevention Division prior to engaging in the following: … To install or operate stationary lead-acid battery systems having a liquid capacity of more than 100 gallons (378.5L). See article 64. Additional requirements may be applicable.

General Stationary lead-acid battery systems having an electrolyte capacity of more than 100 gallons in sprinklered buildings or 50 gallons(189.3L) in unsprinklered buildings used for facility standby power, emergency power or uninterrupted power supplies shall be in accordance with Article 64. Stationary lead-acid battery systems with individual lead-acid batteries exceeding 20 gallons each shall also comply with Article 80. Prior to installation, plans shall be submitted and approved.

Occupancy Separation In other than Groups A, E, I and R Occupancies, battery systems shall be located in a room separated from other portions of the building by a minimum one-hour fire-resistive occupancy separation. In Groups A, E, I and R Occupancies, battery systems shall be located in a room separated from other portions of the building by a two-hour fire-resistive occupancy separation.

Installation & Maintenance Installation and maintenance shall be in accordance with nationally recognized standards. Batteries shall be provided with safety venting caps.

Spill Control Each rack of batteries, or group of racks shall be provided with a liquid-tight 4-inch (101.6mm) spill control barrier which extends at least one inch beyond the battery rack in all directions.

Neutralization An approved method to neutralize spilled electrolyte shall be provided. The method shall be capable of neutralizing a spill from the largest lead-acid battery to a pH between 7.0 and 9.0.

Ventilation Ventilation shall be in accordance with the Mechanical Code and the following:
The ventilation system shall be designed to limit the maximum concentration of hydrogen to 1.0 percent of the total volume of the room in accordance with nationally recognized standards, or continuous ventilation shall be provided at a rate of not less than 1 cubic foot per minute per square foot of floor area of the room.

Signs Doors into rooms or buildings containing stationary lead-acid battery systems shall be provided with approved signs. The signs shall state that the room contains lead-acid battery systems, that the battery room contains energized electrical circuits and that the battery electrolyte solutions are corrosive liquids.

Seismic Protection Battery systems shall be seismically braced in accordance with the Building Code.

Smoke Detection An approved automatic smoke detection system shall be installed in such areas and supervised by an approved central, proprietary or remote station service, or a local alarm which will give an audible signal at a constantly attended location.

Additional
Requirements_____

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